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OCCUPATIONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE STUDENTS COMPLETING A PRESCRIBED COURSE, 1959-63.

BY- RODGERS, JOHN H.
CLEMSON UNIV., S.C., DEPT. OF AGRICULTURAL EDUC.

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THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY WAS TO DETERMINE THE OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF STUDENTS WITH AT LEAST 2 YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE WHO GRADUATED OR LEFT SCHOOL DURING 1959-63. DATA ON 21,148 FORMER STUDENTS WERE COLLECTED BY QUESTIONNAIRES FROM NEARLY ALL OF THE VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS IN THE STATE. IT WAS FOUND THAT, OF THOSE AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT, OVER 57 PERCENT HELD AGRICULTURAL JOBS, AND LESS THAN 43 PERCENT WERE IN NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS. OF THOSE EMPLOYED IN NON-FARM OCCUPATIONS, 2,325 WERE IDENTIFIED AS HAVING BENEFITED FROM VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE. OVER 13 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE GROUP WERE IN THE ARMED FORCES, 7 PERCENT WERE ATTENDING COLLEGES, AND 9 PERCENT WERE UNKNOWN, DECEASED, OR UNEMPLOYED. OVER 40 PERCENT OF THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES WERE IN FARMING PRIOR TO INDUCTION. (JM)

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Agricultural Education Department
Clemson University
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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John H. Rodgers

Agricultural Education Department
Clemson University
June 1964

OCCUPATIONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE STUDENTS COMPLETING A PRESCRIBED COURSE, 1959-63

The purpose of the study was to provide information concerning the agricultural and nonagricultural occupations of South Carolina students who completed at least two years of vocational agriculture and entered the labor market by graduating or leaving school during the years 1959-1963. Data were secured from teachers of vocational agriculture in the public schools of South Carolina.

Method--All teachers of vocational agriculture in South Carolina were asked to participate in the study by furnishing information concerning the employment of former students who completed two or more years of vocational agriculture and who entered the labor market during the years 1959 to 1963 inclusive. A questionnaire was developed by the Agricultural Education Department for recording the information. Questionnaires were distributed and collected by District Supervisors of Agricultural Education.

Response--Completed survey forms were received from 97 per cent (185) of the white teachers and all of the Negro teachers. Data on 21,148 former students were reported. This number represented approximately 98 per cent of those completing two or more years of vocational agriculture who left school during the five-year period.

Findings--Of those former students who were employed in the labor market and whose jobs could be identified, over 57 per cent held agricultural jobs while slightly less than 43 per cent were engaged in nonagricultural endeavors. Data from Table 1 indicate that approximately 42 per cent of the entire population studied were employed in agricultural pursuits and only 29 per cent held nonagricultural jobs.

Of those employed in nonfarm occupations, teachers of agriculture identified 2325 employees who were greatly benefitting from having studied vocational agriculture in high school. Table 5 shows the occupational categories and the numbers in each category who recognized the value of high school vocational agriculture in their present work.

Over 13 per cent of the entire group were in the armed forces; nearly seven per cent were attending colleges--other than colleges of agriculture--and about nine per cent held unknown jobs, were deceased or were unemployed. These three categories account for over 29 per cent of the group studied. Of those in the armed services, over 40 per cent were engaged in farming when inducted.

TABLE 1

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63
(State Totals--White & Negro)

Vocation	Percentage	
Agricultural		
Farming on Home Farm	11.6	
Farm Operator--Other Farm	1.8	
Farm Work--Wages	4.0	
Share Cropper	2.2	
Part-time Farming	9.3	
Agricultural Occupation--Nonfarm	10.4	
Attending College of Agriculture	2.3	
Sub-Total		41.6
Nonagricultural		
Nonagricultural Occupation	29.2	
Sub-Total		29.2
Other		
Armed Forces	13.4	
Attending College	6.9	
Job Unknown and Deceased	8.9	
Sub-Total		29.2
Total		100.0

Table 2 shows the percentages of students completing two or more years of vocational agriculture during 1959-63, who were engaged in various agricultural vocations and nonagricultural jobs at the time of the survey.

TABLE 2

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63, ENGAGED IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS, BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS (State Totals--White & Negro)

Vocations	Percentages of Students by Districts					
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6
Agricultural						
Farming on Home Farm	7.3	7.9	8.1	10.1	14.0	21.2
Farm Operator--Other Farm	1.6	1.3	1.3	2.0	1.3	3.0
Farm Work--Wages	2.4	4.7	3.9	5.2	4.0	3.7
Share Cropper	1.0	2.1	0.3	1.0	3.0	5.2
Part-time Farming	13.5	13.4	8.0	6.8	6.3	8.4
Agricultural Occupation Nonfarm	8.3	11.8	12.0	10.4	10.0	10.7
Attending College of Agriculture	2.6	2.8	1.4	2.4	1.3	2.8
Sub-Total	36.7	44.0	35.0	37.9	39.9	55.0
Nonagricultural						
Nonagricultural Occupation	34.8	27.6	30.9	28.5	33.3	20.1
Sub-Total	34.8	27.6	30.9	28.5	33.3	20.1
Other						
Armed Forces	12.8	11.9	14.6	14.5	15.3	11.6
Attending College	7.5	8.3	7.6	6.6	5.0	6.8
Job Unknown and Deceased	8.2	8.2	11.9	12.5	6.5	6.5
Sub-Total	28.5	28.4	34.1	33.6	26.8	24.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 3 is summary in nature, and shows the number of teachers reporting and percentages of students engaged in agricultural and nonagricultural occupations by supervisory districts.

TABLE 3

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS VOCATIONS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS (State Totals)

District	Number Teachers Reporting	Number of Students	Percentages Engaged In		
			Agricultural Occupations	Nonagricultural Occupations	Other
1	58	4124	36.7	34.8	28.5
2	45	2993	44.0	27.6	28.4
3	38	2553	35.0	30.9	34.1
4	51	4099	37.9	28.5	33.6
5	59	3670	39.9	33.3	26.8
6	53	3709	55.0	20.1	24.9
Total	304	21,148			

Table 4 shows the percentages of former vocational agriculture students, by supervisory districts, who were attending agricultural colleges and other colleges at the time of the survey. These percentages are low as compared to several other states.

TABLE 4

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENROLLED IN COLLEGES, BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS (State Totals)

District	Colleges of Agriculture		Other Colleges		Total	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	109	2.6	308	7.5	417	10.1
2	84	2.8	247	8.3	331	11.1
3	37	1.4	196	7.6	233	9.0
4	99	2.4	271	6.6	370	9.0
5	49	1.3	184	5.0	233	6.3
6	103	2.8	254	6.8	357	9.6
Total	481	2.3	1460	6.9	1941	9.2

Table 5 shows the numbers employed in various categories of non-farm agricultural occupations, by supervisory districts. Many of the employees in these occupational categories use basic knowledge gained in vocational agriculture in their daily work.

TABLE 5

FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA ENGAGED IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF NONFARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS
(State Totals)

Occupational Category	Number Employed						
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6	Total
Farm Custom Service Operators	77	50	54	68	70	134	473
Farm Machinery--Sales and Service	52	62	49	92	88	81	424
Forestry	43	95	34	73	43	40	328
Conservation	5	7	7	8	11	9	47
Poultry	7	10	11	10	9	10	57
Dairy	39	28	27	30	16	17	157
Farm Supplies	23	43	13	15	17	38	149
Buyers--Farm Produce	18	31	20	4	27	18	118
Horticultural	55	44	31	42	58	27	257
Farm Real Estate						2	2
Farm Insurance	5	2	1	5	8	11	32
Farm Service Advisers	9		26	4	16	11	66
Miscellaneous Fieldmen	17	25	27	43	53	50	215
Total	350	397	300	414	416	448	2325

White Enrollment

The occupational status of the white students who completed two or more years of vocational agriculture and either graduated or dropped out of school during 1959-63 is shown in Table 6. Approximately one-third of these former students were engaged in nonagricultural occupations. More than one-third were employed in agricultural pursuits while the remainder were in the armed forces, attending college or had unknown occupations. Of the nearly 1800 members of the armed forces, approximately one-third were farming at the time of induction.

TABLE 6

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63 (White Enrolment)

Vocation	Percentage	
Agricultural		
Farming on Home Farm	10.3	
Farm Operator--Other Farm	1.0	
Farm Work--Wages	1.4	
Share Cropper	1.2	
Part-time Farming	9.2	
Agricultural Occupation--Nonfarm	9.3	
Attending College of Agriculture	2.8	
Sub-Total		35.2
Nonagricultural		
Nonagricultural Occupation	34.9	
Sub-Total		34.9
Other		
Armed Forces	15.6	
Attending College	8.1	
Job Unknown and Deceased	6.2	
Sub-Total		29.9
Total		100.0

Table 7 shows the percentages of former white vocational agriculture students engaged in various vocations, by supervisory districts. The data indicate the importance of part-time farming in the more industrialized districts and the relative holding power of the home farm in the farming areas of districts 5 and 6.

TABLE 7

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63, ENGAGED IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS
(White Enrollment)

Vocations	Percentages of Students by Districts					
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6
Agricultural						
Farming on Home Farm	6.0	8.0	8.6	8.4	13.8	20.0
Farm Operator--Other Farm	1.4	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.4	1.4
Farm Work--Wages	1.2	2.5	1.6	1.2	0.7	0.9
Share Cropper	0.4	0.3		0.2	1.7	4.6
Part-time Farming	13.7	14.7	7.3	5.4	5.2	4.9
Agricultural Occupation Nonfarm	8.4	10.2	10.0	9.3	8.3	10.4
Attending College of Agriculture	2.7	3.8	2.2	3.3	1.3	3.3
Sub-Total	33.8	40.6	30.8	28.2	31.4	45.5
Nonagricultural						
Nonagricultural Occupation	36.7	30.2	38.8	36.0	39.5	27.9
Sub-Total	36.7	30.2	38.8	36.0	39.5	27.9
Other						
Armed Forces	13.3	13.9	18.0	18.9	17.8	15.3
Attending College	8.0	9.1	9.3	8.9	6.3	7.5
Job Unknown and Deceased	8.2	6.2	3.1	8.0	5.0	3.8
Sub-Total	19.5	29.2	30.4	35.8	29.1	26.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

A summary showing the number of teachers reporting and the number of former students included in the study, by supervisory districts, is shown in Table 8. Also, the percentages of former students engaged in agricultural, nonagricultural and other occupations are shown.

TABLE 8

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS VOCATIONS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS (White Enrollment)

District	Number Teachers Reporting	Number of Students	Percentages Engaged In Agricultural Occupations	Nonagricultural Occupations	Other
1	42	3176	33.8	36.7	29.5
2	33	1890	40.6	30.2	29.2
3	22	1135	30.8	38.8	30.4
4	25	1616	28.2	36.0	35.8
5	33	1902	31.4	39.5	29.1
6	30	1744	45.5	27.9	26.6
Total	185	11,463	35.2	34.9	29.9

Table 9 shows the numbers and percentages of students who completed two or more years of vocational agriculture during 1959-63, and were enrolled in agricultural and other colleges at the time of the survey.

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENROLLED IN COLLEGES BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS (White Enrollment)

District	College of Agriculture Number	College of Agriculture Percentage	Other Colleges Number	Other Colleges Percentage	Total Number	Total Percentage
1	87	2.7	255	8.0	342	10.8
2	72	3.8	172	9.1	244	12.9
3	26	2.2	105	9.3	131	11.4
4	53	3.3	143	8.9	196	12.1
5	25	1.3	120	6.3	145	7.6
6	58	3.3	131	7.5	189	10.8
Total	321	2.8	926	8.1	1247	10.9

Table 10 shows numbers of identified employees in various nonfarm agricultural occupations. These data were compiled by broad occupational categories and by supervisory districts to facilitate comparisons.

TABLE 10

FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA ENGAGED IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF NONFARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS
(White Enrollment)

Occupational Category	Number Employed						
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6	Total
Farm Custom Service Operators	60	22	15	25	19	37	178
Farm Machinery--Sales and Service	49	35	21	32	41	32	210
Forestry	33	31	8	33	18	8	131
Conservation	3	1	2	3	2	5	16
Poultry	7	8	2	2	2	4	25
Dairy	28	10	7	8	10	1	64
Farm Supplies	17	16	12	9	15	23	92
Buyers--Farm Produce	8	30	5	2	14	14	73
Horticultural	30	22	6	4	1	8	71
Farm Real Estate						2	2
Farm Insurance	5	2	1	5	8	11	32
Farm Service Advisers	3		25	2	1	2	33
Miscellaneous Fieldmen	13	11	10	16	15	10	75
Total	256	188	114	141	146	157	1002

Negro Enrollment

The occupational status of the Negro students who completed two or more years of vocational agriculture and either graduated or dropped out of school during 1959-63 is shown in Table 11. Approximately one-half of these former students were engaged in agricultural pursuits with less than one-fourth in nonagricultural occupations. Over half of those serving in the armed forces had been farming at the time of induction.

TABLE 11

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63 (Negro Enrollment)

Vocation	Percentage	
Agricultural		
Farming on Home Farm	13.2	
Farm Operator--Other Farm	2.7	
Farm Work--Wages	7.0	
Share Cropper	3.3	
Part-time Farming	9.5	
Agricultural Occupation--Nonfarm	11.7	
Attending College of Agriculture	1.7	
Sub-Total		49.1
Nonagricultural		
Nonagricultural Occupation	22.6	
Sub-Total		22.6
Other		
Armed Forces	10.8	
Attending College	5.5	
Job Unknown and Deceased	12.0	
Sub-Total		28.3
Total		100.0

Table 12 shows the percentages of former Negro vocational agriculture students engaged in various vocations. The data indicate the relative importance of agricultural occupations in the different supervisory districts.

TABLE 12

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63, ENGAGED IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS
(Negro Enrollment)

Vocations	Percentages of Students by Districts					
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6
Agricultural						
Farming on Home Farm	11.5	7.8	7.7	11.3	14.2	22.3
Farm Operator--Other Farm	2.4	1.7	1.3	3.0	2.4	4.4
Farm Work--Wages	6.4	8.4	5.7	7.7	7.5	6.3
Share Cropper	3.1	5.2	0.6	1.5	4.4	5.7
Part-time Farming	12.8	11.2	8.6	7.7	7.6	11.4
Agricultural Occupation Nonfarm	8.0	14.6	13.6	11.2	11.9	11.0
Attending College of Agriculture	2.3	1.1	0.8	1.9	1.4	2.3
Sub-Total	46.5	50.0	38.3	44.3	49.4	63.4
Nonagricultural						
Nonagricultural Occupation	28.5	23.1	24.6	23.6	26.6	13.1
Sub-Total	28.5	23.1	24.6	23.6	26.6	13.1
Other						
Armed Forces	11.1	8.6	11.9	11.6	12.4	8.4
Attending College	5.6	6.8	6.4	5.2	3.6	6.3
Job Unknown and Deceased	8.3	11.5	18.8	15.3	8.0	8.8
Sub-Total	25.0	26.9	37.1	32.1	24.0	23.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

A summary showing the number of teachers reporting and the number of former students included in the study, by supervisory districts, is shown in Table 13. Also, the percentages of former students engaged in agricultural, nonagricultural and other occupations are shown.

TABLE 13

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS VOCATIONS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS
(Negro Enrollment)

District	Number Teachers Reporting	Number of Students	Percentages Engaged In Agricultural Occupations	Nonagricultural Occupations	Other
1	16	948	46.5	28.5	25.0
2	12	1103	50.0	23.1	26.9
3	16	1418	38.3	24.6	37.1
4	26	2483	44.3	23.6	32.1
5	26	1768	49.4	26.6	24.0
6	23	1965	63.4	13.1	23.5
Total	119	9685	49.1	22.6	28.3

Table 14 shows the numbers and percentages of students who completed two or more years of vocational agriculture during 1959-63, and were enrolled in agricultural and other colleges at the time of the survey.

TABLE 14

PERCENTAGES OF FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENROLLED IN COLLEGES, BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS
(Negro Enrollment)

	College of Agriculture		Other Colleges		Total	
District	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	22	2.3	53	5.6	75	7.9
2	12	1.1	75	6.8	87	7.9
3	11	0.8	91	6.4	102	7.2
4	46	1.9	128	5.2	174	7.0
5	24	1.4	64	3.6	88	5.0
6	45	2.3	123	6.3	168	8.5
Total	160	1.7	534	5.5	694	7.2

Table 15 shows numbers of identified employees in various nonfarm agricultural occupations. These data were compiled by broad occupational categories and by supervisory districts to facilitate comparisons.

TABLE 15

FORMER STUDENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA ENGAGED IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF NONFARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS
(Negro Enrollment)

Occupational Category	Number Employed						
	Dist. 1	Dist. 2	Dist. 3	Dist. 4	Dist. 5	Dist. 6	Total
Farm Custom Service Operators	17	28	39	63	51	97	295
Farm Machinery--Sales Service	3	27	28	60	47	49	214
Forestry	10	64	26	40	25	32	197
Conservation	2	6	5	5	9	4	31
Poultry		2	9	8	7	6	32
Dairy	11	18	20	22	6	16	93
Farm Supplies	6	27	1	6	2	15	57
Buyers--Farm Produce	10	1	15	2	13	4	45
Horticultural	25	22	25	38	57	19	186
Farm Real Estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farm Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farm Service Advisers	6		1	2	15	9	33
Miscellaneous Fieldmen	4	14	17	27	38	40	140
Total	94	209	186	273	270	291	1323

TABLE 16

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF FORMER STUDENTS COMPLETING TWO OR MORE YEARS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1959-63
(Summary--State)

Vocation	Percentage		
	White	Negro	State
Agricultural			
Farming on Home Farm	10.3	13.2	11.6
Farm Operator--Other Farm	1.0	2.7	1.8
Farm Work--Wages	1.4	7.0	4.0
Share Croper	1.2	3.3	2.2
Part-time Farming	9.2	9.5	9.3
Agricultural Occupation Nonfarm	9.3	11.7	10.4
Attending College of Agriculture	2.8	1.7	2.3
Sub-Total	35.2	49.1	41.6
Nonagricultural			
Nonagricultural Occupation	34.9	22.6	29.2
Sub-Total	34.9	22.6	29.2
Other			
Armed Forces	15.6	10.8	13.4
Attending College	8.1	5.5	6.9
Job Unknown and Deceased	6.2	12.0	8.9
Sub-Total	29.9	28.3	29.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

IMPLICATIONS FOR VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Based upon the average age of farm operators and the present number of operators in South Carolina, the Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Department at Clemson estimated that opportunities will exist for about 2,400 persons annually as farm operators to replace those who retire, die or move out of farming. This number accounts for approximately one-half of the farm boys in South Carolina reaching maturity each year. In addition farming provides employment for some 87,000 family workers including operators, over 17,000 regular hired workers and more than 31,000 seasonal workers. Educational programs in agriculture must continue to provide the knowledge, skills, attitudes and appreciations needed by those in production agriculture who provide our sustenance.

Our leadership in agricultural progress depends upon a corps of adequately educated men in the areas of agricultural research, business, education, industry and communication. These areas employ a large majority of the 40 per cent of our labor force engaged in producing, processing, distributing and marketing agricultural products. Many young men depend upon the high school curriculum in vocational agriculture to give them the technical preparation needed for careers in these areas. Many professional careers, however, depend upon preparation in an agricultural college and often require study for advanced degrees. Farm background is desirable in some careers, helpful in others and of little consequence in some others. However, some knowledge of agriculture is needed in order for young persons to make sound decisions to enter upon such careers. Education in agriculture must provide the basic knowledge needed by academic minded youngsters who will make their maximum contributions to society through professional careers in agriculture.

Many high school students who express an interest in modern agriculture will not have an opportunity to develop traditional farming programs. Therefore, greater emphasis must be placed on providing desirable work experiences in agriculture through farm placement, job placement in agricultural enterprises and development of school laboratories. The value of supervised practices in agriculture is unquestioned. Teachers must now give equal consideration to experiences gained through any of the means being used.

Adult education is receiving more support today than at any time in the past. Our governmental leaders on the state and national levels are asking educators to assume the tremendous task of preparing large numbers of adults to participate effectively in our society. These adults fall roughly into three categories (1) those who failed to complete the offerings of the public schools, (2) those whose education is obsolete, and (3) those whose educational needs have not been satisfied. Of course everyone could be classed in the third category.

Vocational agriculture will continue to provide instruction for adults who are engaged in full-time and part-time farming. In addition we have a responsibility to provide instruction for a great number who are preparing to enter, or are preparing for advancement in other agricultural occupations. The educational needs of such a group are varied and broad in scope.

In farming, the greatest educational need is identified as farm management. Many attempts have been made to help farmers in this area and the need still exists. It would appear that perhaps we could use some help from business education in attacking the problems of setting up adequate record systems and in keeping and analyzing records. Farming is big business yet most farmers do not employ bookkeeping assistance. Perhaps they pay for such assistance without the benefits ordinarily derived. Even with this assistance, the teacher of agriculture would still have many areas in which to specialize and keep up-to-date.

Programs designed to prepare workers for other agricultural occupations could be greatly enhanced if prepared cooperatively with the other vocational services. A farm machinery salesman might receive technical instruction and a broad knowledge of agriculture from the agriculture teacher, business methods and bookkeeping from the business education teacher and salesmanship and advertising from the distributive education teacher. Such a curriculum would far surpass the offerings of any single service.

The job to be done in vocational education has grown so rapidly that we must consolidate our forces and make a concerted drive to develop occupational competence. Education will set the pace for technological and economic progress.